IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A pumping system, comprising:

a submersible, centrifugal pump having an outer housing, a shaft, a plurality of diffusers mounted within the outer housing and a plurality of impellers mounted about the shaft, each impeller having a short hub formed of a moldable plastic and a sleeve axially adjacent the short hub, wherein the sleeve is positioned about the shaft for rotation within a next adjacent diffuser, the sleeve being formed of a non-plastic material able to better withstand abrasive wear relative to the moldable plastic.

- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Currently amended) The pumping system as recited in claim 1 2, wherein the sleeve is a metal sleeve.
- 4. (Currently amended) The pumping system as recited in claim 1 2, wherein the sleeve is a nickel cast iron sleeve.
- 5. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 1, wherein the moldable plastic comprises an arlene sulfide polymer.
- 6. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 1, wherein the moldable plastic comprises a polyphenylene sulfide (PPS) material.
- 7. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 1, wherein each diffuser comprises a moldable plastic.

- 8. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 7, wherein each diffuser comprises at least one metal reinforcement member molded into the moldable plastic.
- 9. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 8, wherein the moldable plastic comprises PPS.
- 10. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 1, wherein each impeller has a plurality of moldable plastic vanes extending from the short hub.
- 11. (Currently amended) An electric submersible pumping system, comprising:
 - a submersible motor;
 - a motor protector; and

a submersible pump with a plurality of stages, each stage having an impeller with a plurality of vanes, formed of a moldable plastic, and a sleeve that rotates with the plurality of vanes, the plurality of vanes being formed of a moldable plastic and the sleeve being formed of a material having greater wear resistance than the moldable plastic.

- 12. (Original) The electric submersible pumping system as recited in claim 11, wherein the sleeve is a metal sleeve.
- 13. (Original) The electric submersible pumping system as recited in claim 12, wherein the moldable plastic comprises PPS.
- 14. (Original) The electric submersible pumping system as recited in claim 11, wherein the impeller comprises a short hub formed of the moldable plastic and integrally molded with the plurality of vanes, the sleeve being disposed axially adjacent the short hub.

- 15. (Original) The electric submersible pumping system as recited in claim 11, wherein each stage has a diffuser comprising a moldable material.
- 16. (Original) The electric submersible pumping system as recited in claim 15, wherein the moldable material is the same type of moldable plastic used to formed the plurality of vanes.
- 17. (Original) The electric submersible pumping system as recited in claim 15, wherein the diffuser comprises at least one reinforcement member molded into the moldable material.
- 18. (Currently amended) A pumping system, comprising:

a submersible, centrifugal pump having an outer housing, a shaft, a plurality of diffusers mounted within the outer housing and a plurality of impellers mounted about the shaft, each diffuser being formed of a moldable material and a reinforcement member molded into the moldable material, the reinforcement member being disposed generally circumferentially along a radially outlying region of the diffuser.

- 19. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 18, wherein the moldable material comprises PPS.
- 20. (Original) The pumping system as recited in claim 18, wherein the reinforcement member is a metal ring having surface features to grip the moldable material.
- 21. (Currently amended) A method of creating an impeller for a centrifugal, submersible pump having a plurality of stages through which a liquid is pumped, comprising:

forming a short hub and a plurality of attached impeller vanes from a moldable material; and

positioning a wear resistant sleeve axially adjacent the short hub to create a longer hub, the wear resistant sleeve being formed of a material having greater wear resistance than the moldable material, the wear resistant sleeve extending into an area more susceptible to wear.

- 22. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein forming comprises forming the short hub and the plurality of attached impeller vanes from a moldable plastic.
- 23. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein forming comprises forming the short hub and the plurality of attached impeller vanes from PPS.
- 24. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein positioning comprises positioning a wear resistant metal sleeve.
- 25. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, wherein positioning comprises positioning a wear resistant nickel-resist sleeve.
- 26. (Currently amended) A method of creating a centrifugal, submersible pump having a plurality of stages through which a liquid is pump, comprising:

forming a composite diffuser with a stiffening member integrally molded into a moldable plastic material <u>such that the stiffening member is at least partially disposed at a radially outlying region of the composite diffuser</u>.

- 27. (Original) The method as recited in claim 26, further comprising positioning the composite diffuser and an impeller in each stage.
- 28. (Original) The method as recited in claim 27, creating each impeller from a combination of the moldable plastic material and a wear resistant sleeve.

- 29. (Original) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein forming comprises forming the diffuser with a stiffening member being a metal ring.
- 30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein forming comprises molding the stiffening member into PPS.
- 31. (Original) The method as recited in claim 27, further comprising forming the impeller with a short hub and vanes, molded from PPS, and a nickel-resist sleeve adjacent the short hub.
- 32. (Currently amended) A device for use in a centrifugal pump, comprising:

a composite diffuser formed of a moldable material and a reinforcement member integrally molded into the moldable material at a radially outlying region of the composite diffuser.

- 33. (Original) The device as recited in claim 32, wherein the moldable material is a moldable plastic material.
- 34. (Original) The device as recited in claim 33, wherein the reinforcement member comprises a metal material.
- 35. (Original) The device as recited in claim 32, wherein the reinforcement member comprises a ring having a plurality of gripping features.
- 36. (Original) The device as recited in claim 32, wherein the reinforcement member comprises a plurality of reinforcement members.
- 37. (Currently amended) A device for use in a centrifugal pump, comprising:

an impeller having a plurality of vanes extending radially from a central section and a sleeve extending axially from the central section to provide a wear surface, the plurality of vanes being formed from a moldable material and the sleeve being formed from a material comprising nickel-resist to provide having greater wear resistance than the moldable material.

- 38. (Original) The device as recited in claim 37, wherein the moldable material is a moldable plastic.
- 39. (Original) The device as recited in claim 38, wherein the sleeve is a metal sleeve.